

fields of Nanjinad varied from Rs. 22 to Rs. 24 per acre. On the other hand the tax on other lands was as follows :

Tapioca	...	...	Re. 1	per acre.
Rubber	...	...	Rs. 2	Do.
Pepper	...	...	Rs. 2	Do.
Tea	...	...	Re. 1	Do.

The cost of cultivation of paddy was also much higher than that of other products like tapioca, rubber etc. Regard being had to all these circumstances, the rates of land-tax should be reduced.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Padmanabha Pillai, you lost sight of one fact and that is, that in July 1921, Government ordered that dry and garden lands be converted into wet lands and cultivations after 1096 were to be exempt from water cess for the first two years, Rs. 4 only for the third year and full cess of Rs. 7 became payable only after the fourth year? I think this is a substantial concession made in your favour.

As regards actual rates prevalent, the question will come up at the next general settlement. Travancore has fixed assessments under the settlement system for 30 years. So when the next general re-settlement comes, all these matters will be taken into consideration.

61. Difficulties of communication in the Parur taluk.

MR. K. KURIAN JOHN (*Member, Parur taluk*) began with thanking the Government for repairing the Parur-Alwaye road. But the fullest advantage could not be derived from this road unless a bridge was constructed at Alwaye. The ferry boats in the river at Alwaye were not sufficient to meet the demands of traffic and moreover the ferrymen had often to be tipped before they would help the passengers.

Secondly, the road from the Vilakkukal station at Chakkarakadavu to the Parur town should be made cartable.

Thirdly, the level of the road running northwards from the Parur taluk cutcherry junction should be raised; two culverts should be constructed on the road; and a bridge should be constructed on the road to Chennamangalam.

Fourthly, the Pashni canal running southwards through the Parur town should be deepened and the banks on either side of the canal should be strengthened so as to prevent the soil on either side falling down and silting the canal.

Fifthly, the Alengad-Kunanmavu road should be metalled and a bridge constructed at the Nirikottu ferry.

Sixthly, the Kottapuram-Panayikulam road should be improved and metalled.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Kurian, we dealt with the subject of roads in Parur earlier in the day and you will be able to ascertain the position from my replies to the member who came here representing the municipality of Parur.

To make things clearer let me tell you that the new works that have recently been taken up are the Parur-Edapalli road for which the Government have recently sanctioned an estimate of Rs. 18,250 and the work is now progressing.

Then you have the Parur-Chathanad road, a sandy path which has been recently gravelled and made fit for traffic.

Then we have the Chakarakadavu track which has also been made fit for cart traffic.

As regards the Vadakkekara bridge it will be constructed at a cost of Rs. 40,750.

Then we come to the road from the Puthenvelikara police station to the Cochin frontier. This new cart road is approaching completion.

Then, the road from Arikal todū to Puthenchira, has also been made fit for cart traffic; it costs Rs. three thousand and odd.

As I said this morning I will take up the question of a bridge at the Travancore-Cochin frontier.

About the Alwaye bridge I have expressed my view on the subject more than once. It will be a very expensive bridge ; and it becomes a question of whose needs are greater, Alwaye or Neendakara or various other places. We have to give priority according to the greatness of the need.

62. Need for encouraging Sanskrit education.

MR. K. U. THOMAS (*Member, Municipal Council, Kayancolam*) said that the Trivandrum Sanskrit College was the only institution for Sanskrit education which was maintained by the State. There were a number of private Sanskrit schools in the mofussil. But there was in the first place no uniformity in the nature of the instruction imparted in these schools. Secondly, the pupils in these schools found it extremely difficult to go for higher education in the Trivandrum Sanskrit College. These defects had to be removed by Government. So far as the difficulty for higher education was concerned, it could be removed to some extent if Government established a Sanskrit High School at Kayancolam.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Thomas, Government will be very pleased to consider the question of grant-in-aid to a Sanskrit School at Kayancolam if one is established by a private agency.

63. Necessity for changing the present system of education.

MR. V. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Member, Municipal Council, Parur*) said that the present system of education in so far as it was purely literary in character failed to make men fit for civic existence. It gave them no culture and gave them no equipment for the strenuous battle of life. All that an educated man of today was fit for was some employment in the Government service, the chances of securing which were, however, very limited. Nor was this system of education economically advantageous. It was very costly. As remarked by the Dewan in his opening address, many were the fond parents who sacrificed all for equipping their sons for Government employment. In the end they and their children were left disappointed and poor. Many of the educated men remained without any employment. To till the soil was something for which they were not trained and which they thought dishonourable to take up.

It was high time for Government to change this system of education. Indeed it was gratifying to note that Government proposed to appoint a committee to examine the question. But the appointment of the committee was not to be delayed till the publication of the Unemployment Committee's report. It would be better to appoint the committee at once.

Some changes could also be made at once in the educational system. Food and raiment were the two unavoidable necessities of man and every country should be able to produce these two commodities for herself. But Travancore had to depend upon other countries for both these things. Agriculture, hand spinning, and weaving should therefore be taught to every man. These should be made compulsory subjects of study in all schools. Other Governments had already done it. For example the Government of Bengal had introduced compulsory education in agriculture in their schools. With regard to the teaching of spinning and weaving the Legislative Council had passed a resolution, but it was not given effect to in the fullest measure. If Government did it, Travancore would soon become a self-sufficient country in the matter of clothing.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Krishna Pillai, opinion is divided as I see it is here today, as to whether a committee or other agency to enquire into the subject of education should be appointed immediately or should await the publication of the Unemployment Committee's report. The weight of opinion seems to be that we should wait for the Unemployment Committee's report and study the effects of the disease before proceeding to diagnose its causes.

In regard to the ideal that you advocate working up to., viz every man, woman and child should produce his or her own food and his or her own clothing,